

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A muscle strength increasing device used for developing muscles by applying a predetermined compression pressure to a predetermined region to be compressed that is defined on at least one of the limbs of a wearer to restrict the blood flow through the limb, the muscle strength increasing device comprising:

a strip-shaped first band having a first hollow space formed therein at ~~one~~ a distal end thereof;

a strip-shaped second band ~~the~~ a proximal end of which is connected to the ~~a proximal~~ end of said first band, the second band having a second hollow space formed therein at a position near ~~the~~ a distal end thereof through which the distal end of said first band can be passed; and

a strip-shaped third band ~~the~~ a proximal end of which is connected to the ~~an~~ outer surface of at least one of the proximal end of the first band and the proximal end of the second band, the outer surface being ~~that is~~ opposed to said region to be compressed when said region to be compressed is passed through a loop formed by said first and second bands by means of passing the distal end of said first band through said second hollow space of the ~~proximal~~ distal end of said ~~first~~ second band, a distal end of the third band being formed so that it can pass through said first hollow space,

said first band and said second band having an air-tight hollow tube along the length thereof in order to receive a gas from outside,

said first band and said third band being configured in such a manner that said third band can be attached to the outer surface of said first band after the distal end of said third band is passed through said first hollow space and looped back so that the distal end of said third band extends in the same direction as from the distal end of the second band to the proximal end of the second band ~~a direction opposite to a portion of the first band extending from the proximal end.~~

2. (Original) The muscle strength increasing device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said first band and said second band are formed as an integral part.

3. (Original) The muscle strength increasing device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said first band is formed into a hollow bag and said tube is provided within said first band.

4. (Previously Presented) The muscle strength increasing device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein each of said first band and said second band is formed into a hollow bag and said tube is provided within said first band and said second band.

5. (Original) The muscle strength increasing device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said second hollow space is formed by providing a loop with a flexible, rope-like or belt-like material at the end of said second band.

6. (Original) The muscle strength increasing device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said second hollow space is formed by opening a space in said second band at the end thereof.

7. (Original) The muscle strength increasing device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said tube is designed to automatically inflate in the direction facing to said region to be compressed when it is filled with a gas while said third band is fastened to the outer surface of said first band.